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The presence of fifteen dorsal rays or eight anal rays is an exceptional character.

As the *Sebastes norvegicus* of Storer thus agrees in all respects with the description by Kroyer of his *S. viviparus*, there can be little doubt that it really belongs to that species. At the same time, it must be remembered that the latter has not been recorded as an inhabitant of Greenland; and as the Ichthyology of that country is even better known than that of the United States, it will be at least desirable to confirm the identification of our species with *S. viviparus* through the comparison of typical specimens.

Although it has been demonstrated that the species referred by the American zoologists to *S. norvegicus* does not belong to that species, it is nevertheless probable that the latter really does inhabit our coasts. I have been informed by Dr. Stimpson that the common species is found in comparatively shallow water, while another *larger species of a fine red color, called Rose-fish*, is found in deep water; but among the very numerous specimens of *Sebastes* seen by me, no example of such a form has been detected.

Finally, Dr. Storer* has briefly noticed a fish under the name of *Sebastes fasciatus*, in the following terms:

"Body elongated, not convex in front of dorsal fin, as in the *Sebastes norvegicus*. Four distinct dark, brown, transverse bands upon the sides, the broadest at the posterior portion of the body. Length 3¾ inches.

"Fin rays as follows: D. 13—14. P. 20. V. I. 5. A. III. 3—7. C. 19."

The species was discovered by "Captain N. E. Atwood, of Provincetown, and found in the harbor of that place."

This is the only information we have regarding that species. It has been stated to me by an able ichthyologist that it was only the young of *S. norvegicus* (i. e. *S. viviparus*), but on applying to Dr. Storer, he has written that the number of rays given in his description is correct. Such being the case, it is scarcely possible that the preceding statement can be correct; and it would rather indicate that the "new species" belonged to the genus *Sebastichthys*, but too little is known of it to admit it in the system as a valid species.

It has thus been established:

1st. That the *Sebastes norvegicus* Cuv. et Val. has not yet been confirmed as an inhabitant of the New England coast.

2d. That the species referred to under that name by American ichthyologists, is the *S. viviparus* of Kroyer or an extremely closely related species.

It may be hoped that some one of the numerous ichthyologists of Massachusetts will confirm the right of *S. norvegicus* to be considered as an American fish, and at the same time settle the relations of the *S. fasciatus*.

Dec. 1*st.*

MR. VAUX, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Nineteen members present.

A letter was read from Mr. William Short, Louisville, Ky., Nov. 20th, placing at the disposal of the Academy the herbarium of the late distinguished botanist, Professor Charles W. Short, of that city.

The following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Academy be tendered to the family of the late Dr. Charles W. Short, of Louisville, Ky., for the exceedingly valuable donation of his herbarium, announced this evening.

Resolved, that the thanks of the Academy be tendered to Prof. Asa

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* Storer, Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., vol. v. p. 31, 1854.

Gray for his exertions in securing for the Society the herbarium of the late Dr. Short, of Louisville, Ky.

Dec. 8th.

DR. CARSON, in the chair.

Twenty members present.

The following paper was presented for publication:

"On some new and singular intermediate forms of Diatomaceæ." By F. W. Lewis, M. D.

Dr. Morris mentioned that a nest of owls, Strix pratincola, had been found in the turret of a church on Rittenhouse Square.

Dec. 15th.

The President, Mr. LEA, in the Chair.

Thirty-two members present.

The following paper was presented for publication:

"Synopsis of the Species of Hosackia." By Asa Gray.

Dec. 22d.

The President, Mr. LEA, in the Chair.

Sixteen members present.

The following was presented for publication:

"Synopsis of the Echinoids collected by Dr. W. Stimpson." By A. Agassiz.

Dec. 29th.

The President, Mr. LEA, in the Chair.

Twenty-nine members present.

On report of the respective Committees, the following papers were ordered to be published in the Proceedings:

On some New and Singular Intermediate forms of DIATOMACEÆ.

BY F. W. LEWIS, M. D.

About three years ago I made a gathering from the marsh bordering a shallow pond, situated in the Notch Valley, (White Mountains,) from the Southern end of which the Saco river takes its rise. This pond is fed by numerous mountain streams of small size, which nearly always dry up during the heats of summer. Its principal source of supply is in the springs which well up from beneath the morass, in the centre of which the pond lies.

This gathering was principally composed of particles of the adjacent rocks, mixed with some vegetable debris. It contained both Diatomaceæ and Des-